

Husband: **MICHAL KUTARNYA**

Born:

Married:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Wife: **ANNA KULTON**

Bapt: 25 July 1775 Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia

Died:

Buried:

Father: FRANCISZEK KULTON

Mother: BARBARA

<u>Issue:</u>	<u>Baptized:</u>	<u>Where:</u>
1. ONDREJ KUTARNYA	2 November 1805	Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia
2. JÁN KUTARNYA	15 December 1815	Spisská Stará Ves, Kežmarok, Slovakia

Church records name FRANCISCI and BARBARA KULTON as the parents of two daughters named ANNA.¹ The first born was baptized on 28 June 1773 while the second was baptized two years later, which probably means the first ANNA died in infancy. There are no others named ANNA KULTON in records from the Kežmarok district.

They were living in Stará Ves (Ófalu) for the birth of the sons and probably lived there all their lives. A preliminary search of archival records confirmed only two children though there were undoubtedly more.

Stará Ves translates as "Old town" which is a misnomer; Spisská Nova Ves (New Town) is actually older. To explain: the Germanic equivalent of Stará Ves is *Altenstadt* or *Altendorf*. The town is believed to have been named after a German landholder of the name ALDO or ADALO. "Aldo's town" becomes *Aldodorf*. As use of the German language declined, the name of the town changed from *Aldodorf*, which didn't make much sense unless the history of the town was known; to *Altendorf*, which seemed plausible and is found in the 1869 census. The local languages, utilizing a strict translation of *Old Town* called the town *Stará Ves* in Slovak and *Ófalu* in Magyar.

Though younger in age than Spisská Nova Ves, we may still consider it old as there is mention of a settlement here as early as 800 CE during the reign of CHARLEMAGNE. At that time it belonged to the BERZEVICZY family. By 1108 it is found on maps with the Magyar name *Ófalu*. In the subsequent century, invasions and disease decimated the area for over a hundred years. It was repopulated around 1308 and was called *Antiqua Villa*, *Ófalu* and *Altendorf*. In 1330, the MAYOR HENRY sold his ancestral rights of office to the Carthusian monks of the nearby *Cervený Klastor* (Red Cloister). In June of each year there is a festival celebrating the Zamagurie culture at the Cloister. In 1337, COUNT WILLIAM DRUGETH bestowed on the Cloister the entire area. From 1412 to 1772, several of the Spis towns were mortgaged to Poland to help finance the

EMPEROR SIGISMUND'S war with Venice. Spis represents the original "free cities" founded in 1750 in Magyar-occupied Slovakia by German colonists. As part of the Unterzips (Upper Zips) German towns, Spolocenstvo Spisskych Sasov, the "Zips League" or "Zipser Bund" in German; was governed by the Zipser Willkur, a civil and commercial legal system modeled after that of Magdeburg, Germany. Stará Ves was not one of the Zipserbund towns.

The KULTON line may have originated in Prussia as some with this surname have claimed. The KUTARNYA surname is apparently of Ukrainian origins. The Ukraine is supposedly the only place where a common surname ending is *-nya*. That plus the fact that *kut* means corner in Ukrainian is the best option to date. If the KUTARNYA family did indeed come from the Ukraine then they were a part of the *Rusyn* population in Upper Hungary. *Rusyns* were Ukrainians that settled in the Carpathian Mountains of today's Slovak Republic. In the US, the largest *Rusyn* fraternal organization is the *Greek Catholic Union of the Rusyn Brotherhood*. In the 1920s, MICHAL's great-granddaughter, ANNA KUTARNIA SMITH, joined the brotherhood, listing her religious affiliation as Greek Catholic, though she was a devout Roman Catholic. She may have revealed her Ukrainian ancestry by joining this Rusyn organization and brought back to life the KUTARNYA heritage.

MICHAL is not found in the 1828 census for Stará Ves. ONDREJ KUTARNYA is listed, as is a JOSEF KUTARNYA who may have been a brother. Also listed is a JÁN KULTON who may be related to ANNA.² In the 1869 census a contemporary of MICHAL is found living at No. 116 with ALBERT KUTARNIA (born 1832). Unfortunately the name is hard to decipher – it appears to be an abbreviated given name: “*TEMDO*.” or “*JEMDO*.” KUTARNIA, who was born in 1798.

Issue:

1. **ONDREJ KUTARNYA:** his Godparents were MICHAL KRUPA and HEDVIGUS ZADIORA. As mentioned above, ONDREJ appears in the 1828 census as No. 41. The information given states there are two persons between 18 and 60 years old, that they are inhabitants of the city and that ONDREJ has 1 cow.
2. **JÁN KUTARNYA:** he had the same Godparents as his brother: MICHAL KRUPA and HEDVIGUS ZADIORA. He was married sometime before 1861; that marriage ended when his wife died. He probably married when he was around 25 years old – a good range would be 1835 to 1845; along with a wife there probably were some children but nothing is known for certain. He does not appear in the 1828 census for Stará Ves as he was too young, just 13, to qualify as head of a household. He married ANNA VIROSZTEK on 7 February 1861. Their story continues in a separate file.

Note: Anna Kutarnia, daughter of Jan and Maria Kutarnia was baptized in SSV on 7 March 1772.

Endnotes

¹ Slovakia Church and Synagogue Records, 1592-1935, Kežmarok district, accessed 2 January 2022 on familysearch.org.

² Czechoslovakia Census of the Taxable Population, 1828, pp.564-565, Szepes, Ofalu. Microfilm available through Latter Day Saints Genealogical Library (No.0623104)